BCE BUYOUT LIKELY TO FALL THROUGH, PG14

*Details on website.

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Riptide blamed in deaths of Calgary couple

DROWNING Mexican officials may conduct an investigation into the drowning death of a Calgary couple in Acapulco earlier this week.

It is believed that Tanya Hastings, 37, and her fiancée Kevin Suppes, 42, were swept out to sea by a riptide Monday after taking a walk near their hotel.

Fishermen tried to save the couple but were unsuccessful and their bodies washed up on shore.

It's believed their deaths were accidental.

METRO CALGARY

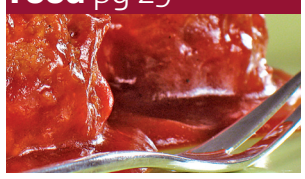
Gift Guide pg 24

Cook up some holiday cheer

Metro Homes pg 27

Home décor goes high-tech

Food pg 29



Meatballs a potluck staple

Celebrity Buzz pg 34

Kevin left me, Brit reveals

Gunmen storm Mumbai

Death toll tops 101 in attacks on India's financial hub

Gunfire rang out as commandos and police laid siege to gunmen holding foreigners hostage in two of India's plushest hotels in the country's commercial capital, after attacks that killed at least 101 people yesterday.

Scores of tourists remained trapped in the Taj Mahal hotel, a 105-year-old city landmark, and the five-star Trident Oberoi in Mumbai's downtown peninsula, its financial and tourist heart.

Small groups of militants armed with automatic weapons and grenades burst into luxury hotels, a hospital and a railway station late yesterday, as well as an iconic cafe popular with foreign tourists, firing indiscriminately and tossing grenades.

History

• India has suffered a wave of bomb attacks in recent years with most blamed on Islamist militants, though Hindu extremist have also been suspected in some bombings.

They appeared to target Britons and Americans as they sought hostages before settling in for a prolonged siege.

"There are many people trapped inside the two hotels it seems, and we are hearing reports of constant gunfire, mostly from the Taj hotel," a duty officer at the Mumbai police control room said.

Police said they had shot dead four gunmen and arrested nine suspects. They said 12 policemen were killed, including Hemant Karkare, the chief of the police anti-terrorist squad in Mumbai.

ARKO DATTA/REUTERS

A reporter talks on her phone as plumes of smoke rise from the top of the landmark Taj Hotel in Mumbai. At least 101 people were killed and another 287 injured in attacks in India's financial capital.

As dawn broke on the red, white and grey brick facade of the Taj on Mumbai's waterfront, the hotel was surrounded by armed police, ambulances and fire engines, with intermittent firing heard, and flames and smoke still escaping from the roof.

At least two guests, trapped in their rooms in the Taj, phoned TV stations. One said the fire-doors were locked, another said he had seen two bodies by the swimming pool.

The latest attacks came amid a slew of state elections, including one in Kashmir, and could be an embarrassment for the ruling Congress party ahead of national elections next year, as well as potentially destabilizing for the country.

REUTERS

Radio station relays info for local Indians

KRISTA SYLVESTER
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COMMUNITY An Indian radio station in Calgary has become the information middle-man after terrorist attacks yesterday in Mumbai killed at least 101 people and injured 287.

Terrorist gunmen targeted the financial capital Mumbai with a series of attacks and took hostages in two five-star hotels.

Radio Sursagnam 93.7 FM radio host Ranjit Sidhu has been fielding calls from concerned Calgarians worried about their family in India.

"Lots and lots of calls, the phone is ringing every five minutes so we've stopped our regular programming just to deliver news on what's going on there," he said.

Sidhu has a cousin who also lives in Mumbai but he already talked with his uncle and found out she is safe.

"She is fine. She is in Mumbai but in an area away from the attacks. But it's still terrifying because this is a really big terrorist attack."

The radio station said it's helped victims of natural disasters in the past and in the upcoming days will be considering a way to help the victims of the terrorist attacks.

A terrorist group calling themselves the Deccan Mujahideen claimed to be behind the attacks.

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Tractor theft
High River RCMP reported a break in at Deer-Country Equipment Tuesday, and it's believed a Massey Ferguson tractor with loader and four tillers were loaded onto a trailer then taken from the scene. METRO CALGARY

Local

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
It's that time of year again
Theatre Calgary is presenting the production A Christmas Carol. The show opens tonight and runs until Dec. 24. For more information please visit www.theatrecalgary.com.
METRO CALGARY

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION weekdays at 6 | Citytv ROGERS

Message gets lost

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Pro Life and Pro Choice — the only thing the two sides can agree on is the original messages have been overshadowed by a freedom of speech debate.

That's the general consensus among students at the University of Calgary as the controversy over the pro-life club's graphic images depicting abortion rages on as the group ignored requests to turn their displays inward.

"Basically these two sides just get together and disagree and people either avoid it like the plague or come watch the fighting, but the message has been lost," 21-year-old David Wimbush said.

While U of C initially threatened the pro-life group with possible arrest and expulsion if they erected the signs, yesterday Campus Security informed seven members of the group they were trespassing on university property.

The university asked the Calgary Police Service to issue the appropriate summonses or other enforcement action.

"Arrest us, charge us, expel us, but we won't let that stop us from expressing our beliefs," pro-life group president Leah Hallman said.

The displays continue on campus today.

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Pro-life group members at the U of C were informed they and their displays were trespassing on university property yesterday, prompting campus security to get the Calgary Police Service involved.

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Watch Strathcona pushed to fund a new hockey arena at **metronews.ca/local**

Watch as information is sought from the public after attempted abduction at **metronews.ca/local**

Lotteries
Lotto 6/49: 11, 33, 34, 42, 43 & 48 Bonus 7
These results are not official.

Witness says Steinke compared his plan to that of character in movie

TRIAL Accused triple murderer Jeremy Steinke was watching the film Natural Born Killers just hours before the Medicine Hat murders, a courtroom heard yesterday.

Jeremy Steinke

An underage girl testified yesterday that Steinke was comparing the fictional movie about a serial killer couple with his own murder plan to kill his then girlfriend's parents and her brother.

"He told us we didn't understand ... he found someone crazy enough ..."
witness

"He told us we didn't understand … He found someone crazy enough, just like himself," the witness stated.

ShareYourViews
calgaryletters@metronews.ca

Bridges may warrant another reconsideration: Local MLA

NEIL MACKINNON
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The province may not shoot down the controversial Bow River pedestrian bridge plan, but that doesn't mean there isn't room for the city to "reconsider" it again, according to one local MLA.

Calgary-Fort MLA Wayne Cao said while Municipal Sustainability Initiative funding, which will be used for the $25 million project, has no strings attached, "the global situation is changing very fast and priority areas need to be revisited everywhere, including Calgary."

"Second-guessing council's decisions might open up an entirely new can of worms."
Ald. Bob Hawkesworth

Still, Ald. Bob Hawkesworth thinks they're an essential part of transportation links to downtown and doubts the province will get involved.

"Second-guessing council's decisions might open up an entirely new can of worms," he said.

Aldermen Joe Connelly, Andre Chabot and Ric McIver have been bending MLA's ears in hopes of having the province end the project that has been approved by council twice.

Cops on the lookout for attacker

Calgary police are asking for help in locating a Caucasian man with a stocky build believed responsible for a late-night attack on a woman on Bonaventure Dr. SE on Monday. METRO CALGARY

Expect more public potties

Despite high price tag, city looking at purchasing automated toilets

ROBIN KUNISKI FOR METRO CALGARY

A city report provided to council yesterday suggested up to three more automated public washrooms could be added to the downtown.

NEIL MACKINNON
neil.mackinnon@metronews.ca

More high-priced automated public toilets may be on their way, despite controversy over the $500,000 tag on the initial one in Tomkins Park.

Buried in a report detailing the state of Calgary's public-bathroom facilities that came before the city's land use, planning and transportation committee yesterday was a recommendation for up to three more automated toilets throughout the city.

The report also suggested cost-cutting measures through the sale of advertising or private partnerships. But Ald. Ray Jones said no matter what happens, he won't support more high-tech restrooms.

"You could rent an entire house for what it costs to run one of those things for a month."
Ald. Ray Jones

"You could rent an entire house for what it costs to run one of those things for a month," said Jones.

While the locations for the self-cleaning facilities, which cost about $40,000 annually for maintenance and utilities, still haven't been hashed out and budgetary constraints may put their adoption off to a later date, the report said purchasing multiple units may drive costs down by almost half.

Ald. Dale Hodges expects firm recommendations this spring and though the Tomkins Park facility has seen "an unbelievable amount of use," he said proposed locations would have a direct impact on whether he'd support buying more of the "very expensive" units.

"There may be a need for them downtown," he said. "They'd have to be in appropriate locations, though, like the corner of a small downtown park."

Local police looking for 3 fugitives

KRISTA SYLVESTER
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HUNT City cops are on the hunt for three fugitives and are asking for help from the public in finding them.

Tabler

The Fugitive Apprehension Detail has released photos of three convicts wanted on separate warrants in hopes of receiving tips.

Kittle

John Tabler, 29, is wanted on a Canada-wide warrant for failure to abide by his statutory release. He was serving four years for robbery-related offenses.

Fenner

Patrick Kittle, 36 and Leanne Fenner, 29, were both serving two-year sentences for various crimes and both failed to report back to their halfway houses and are believed to be in the Calgary area.

News in brief

ART Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, on a four-day visit to Slovakia, is set to open a Calgary-based exposition at the State Scientific Library in Banska Bystrica. The project mutual partnership between the Triangle Gallery of Visual Arts in Calgary and the Gallerie Kruh in Ostrava.
METRO CALGARY

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see centre spread

Season of Caring helping students

STRESS With student loans running dry and fall semester exams looming, stress levels are peaking for post-secondary-education students and Mount Royal College

For the past 21 years, Mount Royal's Students' Association has been conducting a Season of Caring, helping thousands of students make their holiday experience a little bit better, said peer support centre co-ordinator Cathy Rolfson.

"At this time of year, some students are having a hard time coping," she said. "Especially for students with family, the holiday season can be really financially tough and we're doing what we can to help alleviate that stress."

The program raised more than $1,200 towards holiday gift hampers last year.
NEIL MACKINNON/METRO CALGARY

New student centre a relief

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

U OF CALGARY University students getting set for the stress of final exams now have a new place to turn to relieve the anxiety.

ROBIN KUNISKI FOR METRO CALGARY

The U of C opened a wellness centre yesterday on the cusp of student exams and the holidays.

"Staying healthy requires much more than just going to see a doctor when you don't feel well."
Debbie Bruckner

The University of Calgary SU Wellness Centre officially opened its doors yesterday for students who need anything from spiritual advice, a massage or even a root canal from a dentist.

"Staying healthy requires much more than just going to see a doctor when you don't feel well," director of the centre Debbie Bruckner said.

"Physical well-being is closely linked to mental and spiritual health, so it makes sense to have one facility where students can go to for help."

Nursing student Meera Baj said she looks forward to both using the facility for herself and volunteering there, as well.

Stampede forced to lay off 30 people

JOBS The Calgary Stampede cut 30 jobs, mostly full time, as a loss of casino and horse-racing revenue and a stumbling world economy took their toll on the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth.

The Stampede employs about 1,400 people year-round and adjustments had to be made in light of lower-than-expected revenues.
METRO CALGARY

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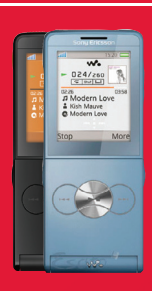

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Ontario hints at axing driver restrictions

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty admits he is getting an earful about proposed driver's licence changes — especially from young people — and has hinted the government could back off on restrictions that limit how many passengers teenage drivers can have. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Canada

Passengers stranded nine hours

A routine bus trip turned into a nine-hour test of survival for a group of northern Manitobans. A Grey Goose bus carrying 13 passengers broke down just before 11 p.m. Sunday, and it wasn't until 8 a.m. Monday that the first vehicle passed by the stranded passengers. The driver was unable to make contact via wireless radio since the bus was halted in an area that is a "dead zone" for the device.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

More troops off to Afghanistan

Canada is sending 250 more military personnel to Afghanistan, an increase of 10 per cent, to help deploy helicopters and drones in the country, a Defence Department spokesman said yesterday.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay said eight Griffon helicopters would be sent to Afghanistan early next year to act as escort aircraft for recently acquired Chinook medium- to heavy-lift choppers. Canada is also taking delivery of unmanned aerial vehicles to help with reconnaissance.

MacKay spokesman Dan Dugas said the aerial deployment would increase the number of Canadian Forces personnel to 2,750 from 2,500.

The announcement was made on the same day that Afghan President Hamid Karzai told a news conference in Afghanistan that he would bring down U.S. planes bombing villages if he could.

Trade Minister Stockwell Day, head of a cabinet committee on Afghanistan, said Karzai's remarks were made during an election campaign but said he could not understand them. **REUTERS**

Pullout

- Day added that Canada was in Afghanistan at the invitation of government, and would remain until its troops are scheduled to pull out in 2011.

Ottawa gallery scores art-world coup

TRACEY TONG
Metro Canada

NGC The most seasoned art critic will appreciate what a coup it is for the National Gallery of Canada to open an exhibit on Gian Lorenzo Bernini, but all visitors will "take something from the exhibit" of the Italian portrait sculptor's creations.

Some works that have never before been viewed outside of Italy are included, but the gallery's deputy director and chief curator says "it's not a scholarly exhibition."

"You have an artist that was very interested in engaging the viewer," said Dr. David Franklin. "There's an informality and spontaneity about his work that appeals to people."

Opening tomorrow, Bernini and the Birth of Baroque Portrait Sculpture, co-organized by the NGC and the J. Paul Getty Museum, is a rare international exhibition of sculptural portraits from early 17th century Rome.

The exhibit includes 27 busts of marble and bronze, 10 paintings and 13 works on paper.

TRACEY TONG/METRO CANADA

The National Gallery of Canada's chief curator, Dr. David Franklin, admires the sculpture of Costanza Bonarelli, the love interest of artist Gian Lorenzo Bernini, at the gallery yesterday.

No Canadians hurt in Mumbai attacks

BOMBING Canada condemned the attacks in Mumbai but said yesterday it has no reports of Canadians being killed or wounded.

All members of Canada's consulate staff in Mumbai, India's financial capital, have been accounted for, Foreign Minister Lawrence Cannon said. **REUTERS**

News in brief

FUNDING The Tories, fending off complaints that they are moving too slowly on a stimulus package for the economy, said yesterday it would probably deliver its economic boost faster than the United States.

ELECTRIC POWER The B.C. government is spending $400,000 to convert its fleet of vehicles to electric power.

REUTERS

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Looting taking place in floods aftermath in Brazil

Brazil sent hundreds of state and federal police officers yesterday to quell looting by homeless and hungry landslide victims facing the threat of disease after heavy flooding that authorities say killed more than 100 people and displaced 54,000. REUTERS

World

A polar bear gender bender

Handlers of a popular polar bear, brought to mate with a female in a zoo in northern Japan, found their breeding plan was doomed when they noticed that he, in fact, was a she. Tsuyoshi, a four-year-old, 200 kg (441 lb) cream-coloured polar bear, had been living in harmony with a female polar bear since June. The two often play together, Masako Inoue, a zookeeper at the Kushiro Municipal Zoo, said yesterday. REUTERS

U.S. condemns Mumbai attacks

INDIA The White House and president-elect Barack Obama yesterday condemned the deadly attacks in Mumbai, India, as the U.S. government convened defence and intelligence officials and offered help to Indian authorities.

"President Bush offers his condolences to the Indian people and the families of the innocent civilians killed and injured in the attacks in Mumbai," the White House said in a statement issued after the U.S. leader left for the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland for the Thanksgiving holiday.

It said the White House National Security Council had convened officials from the State Department and Pentagon to discuss the Mumbai attacks.

"The U.S. government continues to monitor the situation, and stands ready to assist and support the Indian government," the White House said.

REUTERS

MySpace mom guilty

Could face up to 3 years in jail but cleared of felonies

MARIO ANZUONI/REUTERS

Tina Meier, mother of Megan Meier, speaks at a news conference in Los Angeles yesterday. Lori Drew was convicted of three misdemeanor federal charges for helping create a fake MySpace account and tormenting Megan Meier, a 13-year-old girl, who wound up committing suicide.

A suburban mother who prosecutors say drove a love-struck 13-year-old girl to suicide by tormenting her with a fake MySpace persona was acquitted yesterday of the most serious charges against her.

Lori Drew was found guilty of three misdemeanor counts in the high-profile case, which made worldwide headlines and prompted calls for social networking sites like MySpace to crack down on such activities.

She was cleared of three felonies by the U.S. District Court jury, which deadlocked on a fourth count of conspiracy.

Drew, who created the fake profile after her daughter and neighbour Megan Meier had a falling out, showed no reaction as the verdicts were read.

The Missouri woman will face a sentence ranging from probation to three years behind bars for the misdemeanor convictions. She could have been sent to federal prison for up to 20 years if she had been convicted on the felony charges.

Prosecutors say Drew and others created the fake MySpace persona of a 16-year-old boy to woo Meier for several weeks, then abruptly ended the relationship and said the world would be better off without her.

Meier hanged herself in October 2006, just hours after she had read those final messages. REUTERS

Israeli PM Olmert may face tax-evasion, bribery charges

Israel's attorney general said yesterday he was considering indicting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert for fraud, bribery and tax evasion in a case over fake travel expenses that has already forced him to resign.

Olmert is serving as caretaker prime minister until a new government is formed after a Feb. 10 election.

Attorney General Menachem Mazuz told Olmert he was "considering bringing criminal charges regarding suspicions of various violations as part of the Rishon Tours Affair," a statement said. REUTERS

Border

- Israel reopened its border crossings with the Hamas-run Gaza Strip yesterday, allowing in limited amounts of food and fuel.

N.Y.C. al-Qaida attack feared

TERRORISM U.S. authorities have warned of a possible al-Qaida threat to transit systems in and around New York City, a Homeland Security official said yesterday.

New York police said they were increasing security in response to the warning but said this was "in an abundance of caution." REUTERS

News in brief

THAILAND Pressure built on Thailand's military to intervene in a political crisis threatening to descend into widespread civil unrest earlier today after Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat rejected calls to quit.

PIRACY The Somali pirate "mother ship" that the Indian Navy sank in the Gulf of Aden last week was actually a Thai ship that was being hijacked, an anti-piracy watchdog said yesterday. REUTERS

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HOW TO LOSE WEIGHT AT LUNCH

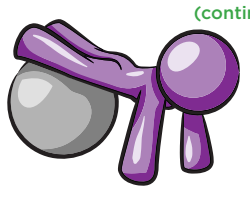
The way to healthy living is finding time to exercise and eat well. Here are some tips to help you burn calories, lose weight, reduce stress and give yourself a boost of energy – all in an hour a day!

Research shows that short bouts of intense exercise can enhance weight loss, cardiovascular fitness, muscle mass, strength and mood.

Vary your weekly exercise routine to include walking briskly, climbing stairs, sit-ups and push-ups, squats, and stretching. Many can be done at the office or close-by.

Just taking a few minutes a day to prepare a nutritious lunch will give you something delicious to enjoy at your desk post-workout. Make sure to stay hydrated by drinking lots of water throughout the day.

(continued online...)



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Rome's bird-busters

Rome's leaders have found an unusual solution to the millions of starlings that invade the city each fall: An ear-splitting recording of bird calls used to scare them away from the city. The birds are considered a hazard to motorists and to the city's monuments. REUTERS

News in brief

SPACE The shuttle Endeavour astronauts packed samples from the International Space Station's revived urine-recycling system yesterday and prepared to leave the outpost after a successful home-makeover mission. The astronauts collected more than six quarts of recycled urine and other wastewater for analysis. The recycler, part of a $250 million US life-support system delivered by the shuttle, is needed to support an expanded, six-person crew next year. REUTERS

Taliban shrugs off U.S. strikes

A Pakistani Taliban commander vowed yesterday to keep up cross-border attacks on Western forces in Afghanistan despite stepped up U.S. missile strikes by pilotless drones on militants in Pakistan.

U.S. forces in Afghanistan have carried out at least 26 air strikes by unmanned aircraft on militant targets in northwest Pakistan this year, according to a Reuters tally, more than half since the start of September.

At the same time, Pakistani security forces have launched major operations against militants in parts of the Pashtun tribal belt along the Afghan border.

But Hakeemullah Mehsud, a deputy to Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud, shrugged off both the U.S. missile strikes and the Pakistani army offensive, saying the Taliban would press on with their "jihad", or Muslim holy war.

"We are constantly sending our fighters into Afghanistan and our operations are continuing there," Hakeemullah said on a rare trip to a Taliban stronghold in the Orakzai tribal region, south of the city of Peshawar. The U.S. drone strikes were doomed to fail, he said.

> **"They have carried out drone attacks in Afghanistan also, but they failed to dampen our spirit."**
> Hakeemullah Mehsud

"They have carried out drone attacks in Afghanistan also, but they failed to dampen our spirit. Eventually we will win."

Security has deteriorated sharply in both Pakistan and Afghanistan seven years after U.S. soldiers and Afghan allies drove the Taliban from power in Afghanistan. The violence has raised grave doubts about the success of international efforts to bring peace and stability to Pakistan. REUTERS

Afghani president wishes to bring down U.S. planes

AFGHANISTAN Afghan President Hamid Karzai said yesterday he would bring down U.S. planes bombing villages if he could, in a sign of growing tension between Afghanistan and its Western backers.

In recent weeks, Karzai has repeatedly blamed the West for the worsening security in Afghanistan, saying NATO failed to target Taliban and al Qaeda sanctuaries in Pakistan and calling for the war to be taken out of Afghan villages.

He said that if he had something like the rock attached to a piece of string, known as a chelak, used to down kites in Afghanistan, he would use it.

"If we had a chelak, we would throw it and stop the American aircraft. We have no radar to stop them in the sky, we have no planes," he said.

"I wish I could intercept the planes that are going to bomb Afghan villages, but that's not in my hands."

Afghanistan has suffered its worst violence this year since U.S.-led and Afghan forces overthrew the Taliban in 2001, with at least 4,000 people killed, around a third of them civilians.

Despite the presence of 65,000 foreign troops backing 130,000 Afghan security forces, Taliban insurgents have grown more confident. REUTERS

Kidnapping Video released of aid worker

REUTERS / HANDOUT

Video footage obtained yesterday by Reuters shows kidnapped French aid worker Dany Egreteau with rifles pointed at him at an unknown location. Egreteau, who was kidnapped in Kabul on Nov. 3, pleaded for his life as gunmen held assault rifles to his head.

Bin Laden's driver sent to Yemen

TERRORISM Osama bin Laden's former driver has arrived home in Yemen after being released from Guantanamo prison, a Yemeni official said yesterday.

The official confirmed that Salim Hamdan would serve in Yemen the remainder of his sentence handed out to him by a U.S. court for providing material support for terrorism.

Hamdan was the first to be convicted in a full trial of the widely criticized tribunals set up by the Bush administration and the U.S. Congress to try non-Americans on terrorism charges outside civilian and military courts.

In the first U.S. war crimes trial since the Second World War, Hamdan was convicted in August of providing personal services in support of terrorism, by driving and guarding al-Qaida's leader.

Hamdan, who is about 40, acknowledged he was part of bin Laden's motor pool in Afghanistan but he said he took the job because he needed the $200 US monthly salary and did not know or support his employer's aims. REUTERS

Criticism

- The Guantanamo tribunals have been condemned by human-rights groups and constitutional scholars who argue the tribunals were rigged by allowing evidence obtained through coercion, hearsay and torture.

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Comment & Views

Comment

No second chances

Paul Martin should not lead Liberals despite calls for support

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

Could the next leader of the Liberal Party of Canada be the one before the last one? Could it be Paul Martin?

Sheila Copps, the former deputy prime minister, reports that some Liberals are dreaming of a "Draft Martin" movement. They believe that the three declared leadership contenders lack Martin's economic experience.

With the economy in recession and the budget in deficit, she writes, a former finance minister who balanced the budget and presided over a surging economy may emerge as the man on horseback. At least that's the hope.

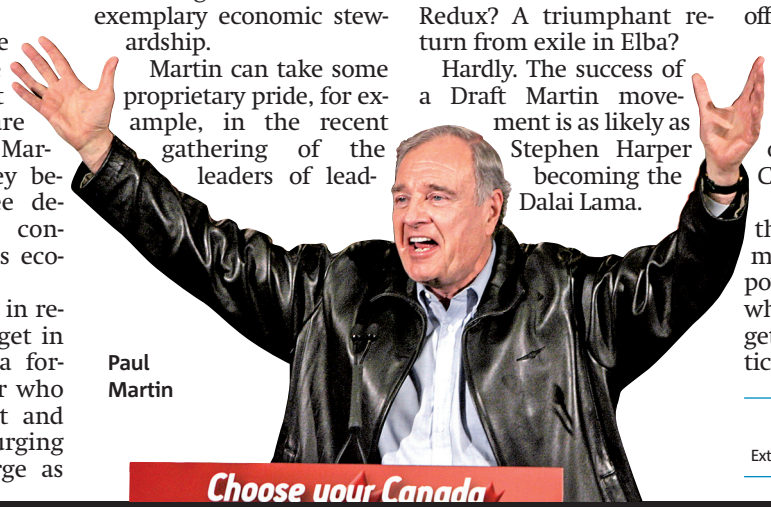
"Some Martinites … are rallying to the former finance minister to save the day and deliver 'the natural governing party' back where it belongs, in power," she writes in The Hill Times.

An intriguing idea. After all, Martin has just published his memoir, giving him the opportunity to reintroduce and reinvent himself. Predictably, he is reminding Canadians of his exemplary economic stewardship.

Martin can take some proprietary pride, for example, in the recent gathering of the leaders of leading industrialized countries. He proposed a broader organization of nations in a ghost-written article a few years ago in Foreign Affairs, the organ of the American foreign policy establishment.

So here we have an economic crisis, a leadership contest and a former politician who may be out of politics — he gave up his seat in the last election — but not out of ambition. Does all that mean Martin Redux? A triumphant return from exile in Elba?

Hardly. The success of a Draft Martin movement is as likely as Stephen Harper becoming the Dalai Lama.



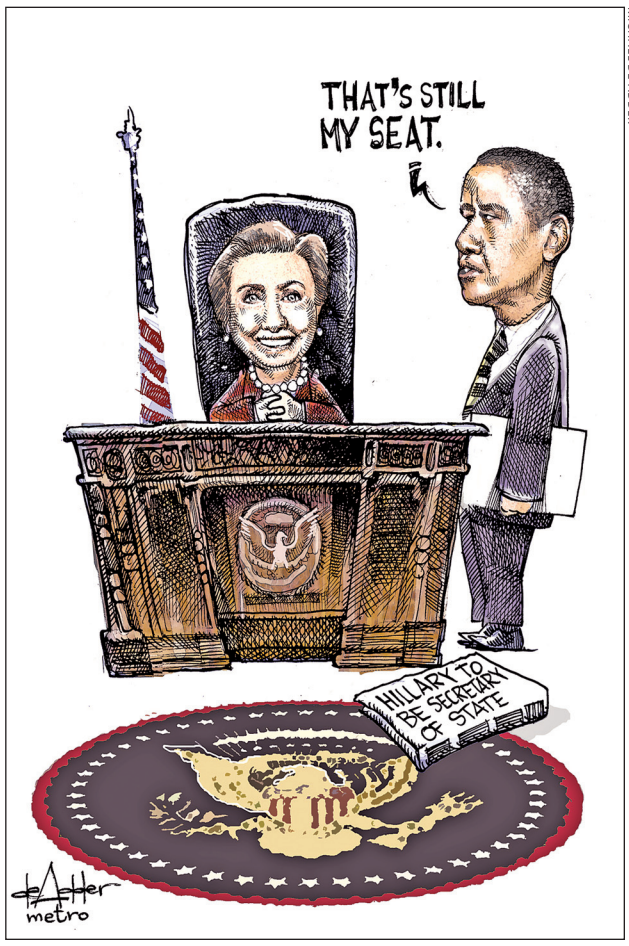
Paul Martin

It's true that Martin was among the most successful finance ministers in our history. He inherited a ruinous situation, slew the deficit, cut taxes and laid the groundwork for the dazzling growth of the next decade.

But he was a better finance minister than he was a prime minister, where he rose to a new level of indecision and ineptitude. Politically, he had mounted a coup d'état against Jean Chrétien, who had won three majorities. He offered none of his rivals — including Copps and John Manley — a place in his cabinet. Then he tried to unseat those Liberals who opposed him, including Copps.

This civil war weakened the party. Martin lost his majority in 2004 and lost power in 2006. He deserved what he got and he won't get a second chance. Politics doesn't work that way.

Andrew Cohen, a professor and journalist, is the author of Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

No one's safe from identity thieves

Michael Shepherd

We all have heard about identify theft, but most of us think it will never happen to us — until it does. According to a CBC article last year, one in six Canadians have been victims of identify theft. It is the fastest growing white-collar crime in both Canada and the U.S., with losses in the U.S. amounting to over $5 billion. I'll refrain from comparing this to the recent financial meltdown on Wall Street.

As a computer scientist of many years, I thought I was fairly safe. I have firewalls on my computers, I rarely buy anything online, and I change my passwords frequently. But it was a paper transaction with a credit card that did me in.

My wife was in Sweden last spring and used a credit card that we seldom use. A month later, the bill came with a $46 Canadian transaction on it, to a genealogy company we didn't recognize.

This was the "test" transaction by the people stealing my identity, checking to make sure the card was valid. The fraudsters were probably doing research that would allow them to steal my identity.

Luckily, a week later I called the credit-card company to complain about junk mail. During the process of trying to register my complaint, they had to verify my identity. Now there was a long pause at the other end, followed by "Are you sure you don't live on St. Clair East in Toronto?" The thieves had put my credit-card number together with personal information easily available on the web, to gain online access to the credit card company and change the information on my file.

According to a CBC article, one in six Canadians have been victims of identity theft.

I nipped this one in the bud and was not liable for the charges the thieves had rung up since the test transaction. But the problem is that such companies report all changes in your personal data to the credit bureaus — so three major credit bureaus now thought I lived in Toronto.

This was like opening Pandora's box. After a lot of angst and a lot of work, we were able to correct the information on file with the various agencies and put fraud alerts on all of our accounts. Still, some of the false information is out there and we are waiting for the next instalment.

The following site and the sites it links to have helpful hints for protecting yourself: *www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/scams/identity_theft_e.htm.*

Michael Shepherd is the dean of the Faculty of Computer Science at Dalhousie University.

Letters

Student body's take on cystic fibrosis appalling

Re: CF not diverse enough: Group, Nov. 26.

I was appalled by Carleton University Students' Association's decision on an annual fundraiser for cystic fibrosis. My first thought was how ignorant. The second thought was about my family.

My father was the president of the Kinsman Club in P.E.I. in the 1960s. He was one of the pioneers of the shoeshine drive. My brother and sister both had cystic fibrosis. My mother recently passed away this year and she left $5,000 for the CF Foundation in her will. She would be turning in her grave if she saw the story.

LESLIE MILLAR
DARTMOUTH, N.S.

Sarah Palin gives feminism a new twist

With all due respect, Andrew Cohen is in error when he characterizes Sarah Palin as "anti-feminist." In fact, she is the new face of feminism. Hillary's generation focused on breaking glass ceilings regarding career and sexual reproductive choices. The younger Palin-age group is pro-life, pro-family and pro-woman, all by choice.

RICARDO DI CECCA
BURLINGTON, ONT.

Throne speech cartoon funny, not racist

Re: Canadian economy may be scary, but cartoon wasn't, Nov. 26.

The Nov. 20 cartoon of Michaëlle Jean was certainly not racist. It was mocking the throne speech that she delivered the day before, in which she presented a gloomy forecast for the economy. I think the cartoonist would have created a similar image no matter who the governor general was at the time. I found this cartoon quite humorous.

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Mexico proposes coin shrinkage
Mexico wants to shrink the size of some of its coins and use stainless steel to make them instead of copper, zinc and nickel alloys, which have hit record prices in recent months. The use of metal coins has increased by about six per cent annually. **REUTERS**

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Magna to spin off entertainment unit

STRONACH Auto-parts magnate Frank Stronach will take direct control of Magna Entertainment Corp. under a complex plan announced by the struggling racetrack operator and its parent company yesterday.

Minority shareholders of MI Developments, MEC's controlling shareholder and the real-estate arm of autoparts giant Magna International, have long called for the company to split from the money-losing Magna Entertainment.

REUTERS

Daimler, Cerberus spar over Chrysler

AUTOS Private equity firm Cerberus has demanded more than $7 billion US from Daimler AG in an extraordinary claim over losses that followed its 2007 acquisition of Chrysler LLC in a bitter dispute that could overshadow a plea for financial aid from the U.S. government for Chrysler.

REUTERS

Retail woes **Out of business**

MIKE SEGAR/REUTERS

Two workers stand with Going Out of Business sale signs last week in front of the Linens n Things store that is closing in a New Jersey strip mall. Shopping centres such as strip malls are reporting vacancy rates of 9.4 per cent, while larger, enclosed malls are faring better, with vacancy rates of about 3.9 per cent.

Business in brief

ECONOMY China cut interest rates by the biggest margin in 11 years, the European Union plotted a 200-billion euro stimulus plan and U.S. president-elect Barack Obama added former Fed chief Paul Volcker to his team in the latest moves aimed at jolting the world out of its economic slowdown.

REUTERS

BCE deal not in the cards

The $52 billion purchase of BCE Inc. looks destined to die with a whimper — or more likely a sigh of relief — after an accounting firm said it was unlikely to sign off on a so-called "solvency test" needed to complete the transaction.

After navigating a yearlong storm of high-profile legal challenges and market crises, the world's biggest-ever leveraged buyout found itself thrown on the rocks yesterday after KPMG said it was unlikely to deliver "an opinion that BCE would meet the solvency tests" by the deal's Dec. 11 deadline.

The Bell Canada parent said it was "disappointed" with the assessment and was reviewing the methodology used.

But amid a backdrop of a looming global recession, there was little optimism that the buyers would also be pressing KPMG to change its mind given they can now bow out gracefully without paying the deal's hefty $1.2 billion break fee.

"Given market conditions, most of the protagonists in this might be just as happy to see the deal not done."
Thomas Caldwell

"My sense is that, given market conditions, most of the protagonists in this might be just as happy to see the deal not done," said Thomas Caldwell, the chair of Caldwell Financial Ltd.

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Don't forget the gift bags
KALLT gift bag set, $1.99 for a set of three. Also comes in blue and white. Available at Ikea, *ikea.ca*. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Holiday Shopping Guide II

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

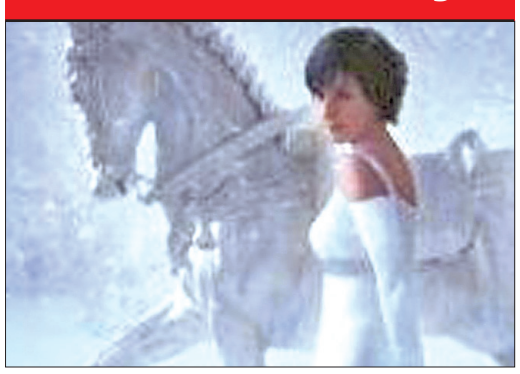
Shop until you drop

Looking for the perfect gift? Read on for fabulous gift ideas, including the best kitchen appliances, p. 24.

For her Pg 17

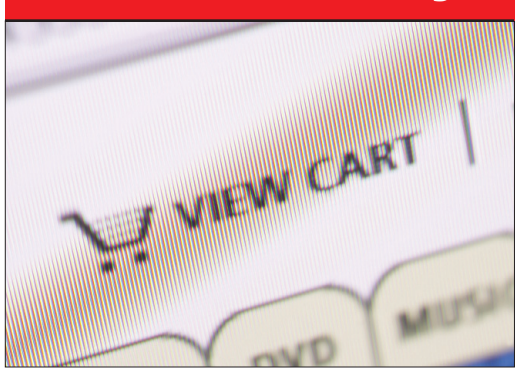
From makeup to jewelry, these gifts are sure to please.

Music Pg 20

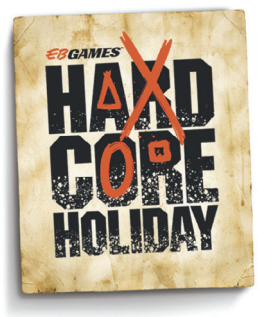


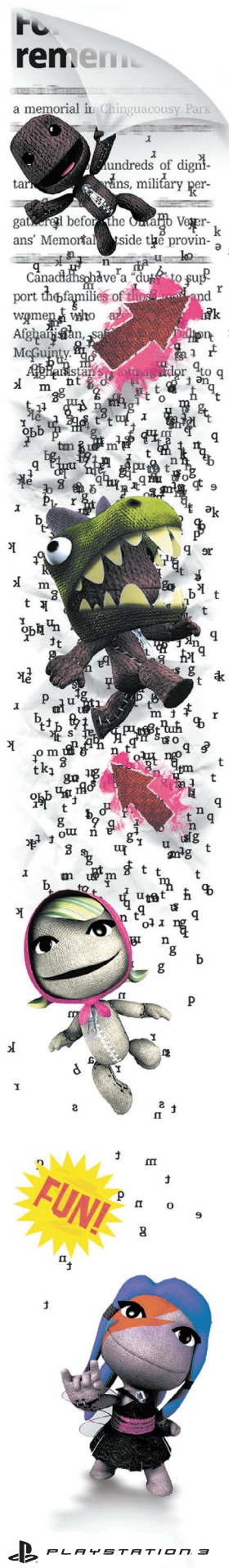
The first of Metro's roundup of this holiday's jolliest jingles.

Trends Pg 22



More customers are opting to buy their gifts online.





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Holiday cheers
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Hot gifts for her

KIM ELBO
for Metro Canada

Make it up to her (gifts under $50)

The best bet is always makeup when you're not sure what to get your sister, girlfriend or wife. Here are some great holiday gift sets perfect for the budget-conscious:

1 All the fine makeup essentials tucked away in a little treasure chest. Quo secret treasure gift set, $40, is available at Shoppers Drug Mart (*shoppersdrugmart.ca*).

2 Keep your lips plump and shiny for a New Year's kiss. Du Wop limited edition gift set. $42, is available at Beauty Mark (*beautymark.ca*).

3 Primp up at the parties with the gold clutch at hand. Clarins Chic n Glam holiday gift set, $49, is available at Sears (*sears.com*).

Hostess with the mostess (gifts under $75)

Don't show up empty-handed at the next party you're going to. Show your appreciation by giving the host a gift.

4 For the fashionable hostess give her the essence of John Galliano in a candle. John Galliano candle by Diptyque, $72, is available at Lola (*lolahomeandapparel.com*).

5 The host that loves all things luxurious will love to pamper themselves in 23kt gold leaf body essentials. Linden Leaves Gold gift set, $74, is available at The Bay (*hbc.com*).

6 Liked the party? Give the host another reason to invite you over again. Palais de Thes glass mini tea set, $75, is available at Farfalla (*shopfarfalla.ca*).

Sparkle and shine ($100+ gifts)

For that special someone, leave her gleaming bright this holiday with jewelry.

7 The perfect gift to commemorate the holidays: Juicy Couture charm and bracelet, $120, is available at Hills (*hillsofkerrisdale.com*).

8 Ring in the New Year with this sweet Fleur-de-lis design ring. Corpus Christi ring, $145, is available at Lola (*lolahomeandapparel.com*).

9 Let her sparkle this season with this beautiful necklace you could wear with just about anything. Lolo necklace, $175, is available at Beauty Mark (*beautymark.ca*).

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Tivoli NetWorks Internet radio ($649.99)

Top 40 playlists, rigid oldies formats and endless talk have made conventional radio a dreary experience, but satellite and Internet radio offer relief — with a few conditions. With Internet radio, you need an Ethernet or wifi connection, and with satellite you need a clear "sightline" of the two competing satellite networks that, in Canada at least, haven't merged together into one yet.

Previous generations of portable satellite players turned into bricks the moment you entered a tunnel or subway or fell into a satellite grey area, so both Sirius and XM have updated their iPod-like units with microSD memory slots that allow you to turn their radios into conventional mp3 players. Commuting to work on surface transit had XM's network holding connections just a bit better than the Sirius Stiletto 2, and the Sirius' Altec Lansing combination headphone/antenna was a bit too close-fitting. A slightly lower price tag, in addition to a more compact design, gave the XMp3 a decided edge.

Tivoli is famous for their small but luxurious PAL radio, and the NetWork takes the PAL's good looks and great sound and builds an Internet radio into it. Configuration on my home wifi network was quick, and the choice of stations generous.

The XMp3 Satellite Radio, left, and Sirius Stiletto 2.

The interface is a bit retro, but the sound is spectacular.

Sansa Clip 4GB ($89.99)

Sansa Fuze 4GB ($99.99)

For iPod and Zune refuseniks, there's still a wealth of nice mp3 players out there, and Sandisk has been quietly holding their corner of the flash memory player market for years. The Clip is meant to compete with the iPod Shuffle, and while this little grey unit might not be as minimal as Apple's lite player, it has a lot that the Shuffle doesn't, including a tidy little screen, an FM radio, an EQ, the ability to play more than just a single random playlist, and twice the memory of the 2GB Shuffle at almost the same price. The plastic clip at the back seems a bit flimsier than the Shuffle's, but it held on during a workout.

The Fuze competes with Apple's Nano, at a competitive price (the 8GB Fuze is $40 cheaper than the same-sized Nano), with the addition of FM radio, and a microSD slot that lets you expand the memory even further. (Sandisk's microSDHC cards run $29.99 for 4GB, $49.99 for 8GB.) It's a sleek little machine, all black gloss and rubber, with an easy-to-navigate menu and both players offer simple syncing through Windows Media Player.

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Holiday Shopping Guide II

Zune gives iPod run for its money

RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

Once a one-word punch line on online geek forums, Microsoft's Zune has been getting more respect in the last year, as second- and third-generation players and a major software update has changed its status from joke to contender.

The iPod's ubiquity might have reached a tipping point and begun diminishing its cool factor, but a comparision between the two players has become something like a fair fight.

There are a lot of digital music players, but the Zune and the iPod are the Beatles and Rolling Stones, as Microsoft's entry into the market two years ago quickly zoomed past more established players like Creative, iRiver and Sansa to second place, albeit far behind iPod's massive market share (73 per cent, at least according to Apple as of last year.)

In terms of usability, Zune stole the march on the iPod with the last major revision of Apple's operating system, when the famously elegant interface gave way to a graphics-heavy split screen that felt kludgy, especially when Coverflow was engaged. Zune's interface, controlled by a signature "squircle" pad with its mix of click and touch sensitivity, feels more responsive, and the larger screen on the Zune gives the player's interface readability.

With its choice of customizable wallpapers and the Zune Originals — artist-decorated players available at no extra cost — Microsoft has reversed the brand myths that have made Apple the epitome of creative rebellion versus Microsoft's faceless behemoth, but the iPod was going to have a hard time maintaining that image for the iPod once it reached market saturation anyway.

Microsoft's 80G Zune music player, left, and the 8G Zune.

The Zune adds features — FM radio, wifi — that Apple has curiously neglected, while eschewing an EQ that would be a minus if the player didn't have basically excellent sound. Apple, in the meantime, has shown a commitment to its standard issue subpar earbuds that's almost perverse. And since Apple axed its 160 GB iPod from the Classic line, the two players compete neatly on memory capacity, with the Zune's frequent price drops on its smaller flash players (4, 8 and 16 GB players for $99, $139 and $179 respectively) making it the better deal.

The Zune's software has also improved, moving from a reskinned Windows Media Player to an integrated suite combining music database and syncing interface, download shop and the Social — the Facebook lite users' community that it obviously intends as a killer app against Apple. It might be that one day, once there are enough Zune owners out there, but so far my community of Zune friends is limited to two nice publicists at Microsoft's PR firm, and as there's no Canadian version of the Marketplace, the Zune will really only be competing with small-fry players in this market.

Apple's iTunes remains superior however, as an organizing tool for large music libraries, though bugs (disappearing tunes, album artwork, and even whole libraries) have developed a Windows-like frequency as the program has grown in size and demands on computer CPUs. Apple's iPod Touch, an entirely new piece of hardware and software, also points the way to a future that the Zune will be forced to follow.

And for anyone whose music library exceeds the capacity of the largest music players (120GB, for both iPod and Zune), the playing field belongs to iTunes, with its Airport wireless networking capability. It's not hard to imagine a day when Apple, the computer maker, leaves the music player field to Microsoft, the software giant, to concentrate on iTunes as a digital entertainment system.

Apple's iPod Touch, top, and iPod Nanos.

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Honky-tonk and headbangers among holiday's jolliest jingles

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

CHRISTMAS IS THE TIME for family, gift exchanges and musicians to rehash the traditional songs of the season in their particular style, for better or worse. So in the interest of saving you time and sanity this Christmas, Metro perused some of the season's jolliest jingles.

Various **Artists**

Album: We Wish You a Metal Xmas and a Headbanging New Year
Label: Armoury
Rating: 🌐🌐🌐🌐

Gods of hard rock unite to shred and wail all your favourite seasonal standards in this raucous and wonderful collection of mirth-making metal mayhem. Jams of note include God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen as howled by Ronnie James Dio, and a take on Silent Night done in part by Testament's Chuck Billy and Anthrax's Scott Ian — a version of the hymn that is anything but quiet. An absolute must for those who will celebrate Jesus' birth by pumping their devil horns in the air.

Anne **Murray**

Album: Anne Murray's Christmas Album
Label: EMI
Rating: 🌐🌐🌐

Anne Murray's seventh Christmas album is everything you might expect. The Canadian music icon knows her audience and sticks to what she does well. Sugary productions with a countrified twang lay out the traditional tracks. CanCon contemporaries Michael Bublé and Diana Krall join Murray on her latest, increasing the likelihood that one of these covers may find its way onto a CBC Christmas special that your mom will watch with bells on.

Enya

Album: And Winter Came
Label: Warner Bros.
Rating: 🌐🌐½

Irish songstress Enya has chosen to make a Christmas album her first release in three years, even though she already has three seasonal works to her name. And none of it deviates from her Celtic new-age modus operandi; drawn out "oohs" and "aahs" weave in with ebbing and flowing long chords while she jumps from English to Latin to Gaelic. The stars twinkle, nights are full of kisses — you'll find all manner of such generic sentimental dross here. Tryptophan for the ear.

Various **Artists**

Album: Country Heat Christmas 3
Label: Sony/BMG
Rating: 🌐

Some of the genre's brightest stars unite, yet again, to shamelessly unleash a collection of horrifying slack-jawed treatments upon an undeserving public. Offenders include ex-Idol Kellie Pickler, who takes the already tasteless Santa Baby to ostentatious new lows, and Canadian Paul Brandt, who regurgitates novelty song Convoy into a narrative-led disaster.

Other such acts play to the unfair hillbilly stereotype — adding the Hee Haw along with the heat on what will likely be this year's most abrasive Christmas album.

Next Week
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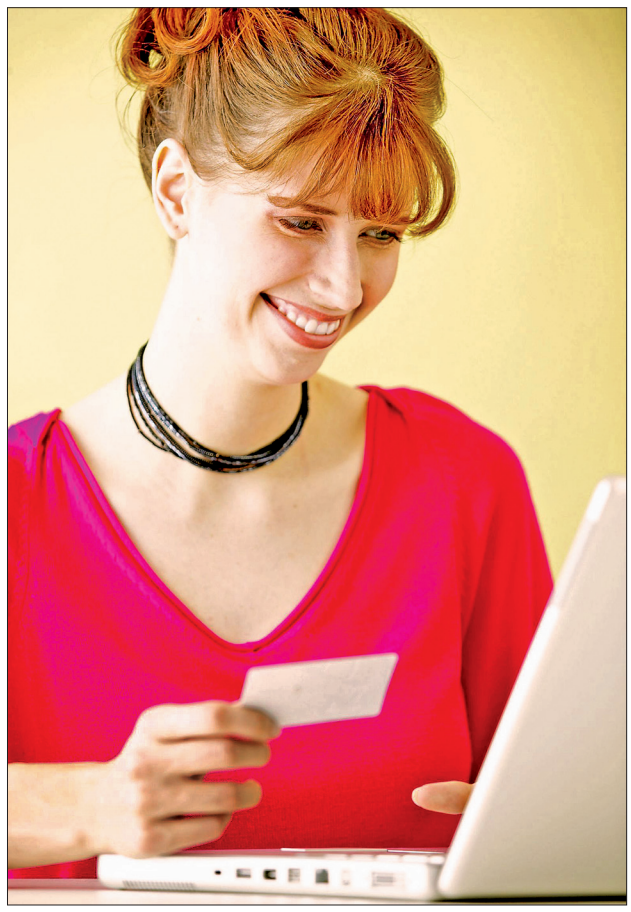
Holiday Shopping Guide II

Online shopping up

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca


Find gifts for everyone on your list from the comfort of home.

Crowded stores, frustrated shoppers, inexperienced and temporary holiday help at the store — it might all add up to make online Christmas shopping more attractive.

More customers are opting to complete their shopping lists with the click of a button, buying their Christmas presents at online retailers, and the number of online shoppers around the world is expected to rise this year. IMRG, an online membership community for e-retailers, released a survey in late October that concluded the Internet is becoming an increasingly important tool for driving consumer choice.

Of the two million people surveyed, 68 per cent said they're more likely to shop online for Christmas this year, compared with 56 per cent in 2007. And 86 per cent of shoppers said they would research all options online before buying in-store.

It's also a growing trend in Canada, says Andrea Hadley, a conference director at eMetrics, an online retailer analyst. Increased broadband access, coupled with more American interest, has moved more retailers to follow the market.

"There's consistent growth in Canada, and so long as the customer has a good experience as a user, you'll continue to see it," she said.

It's not hard to see why, says Bernard Luthi, vice-president of merchandising at online retailer Newegg.ca. He argues customers are tired of dealing with throngs of angry shoppers during the Christmas rush. Infrastructure costs such as employee wages and maintenance factor into the price tag at the store — something Luthi says online retailers and customers don't have to worry about.

"We're predicting growth in the double digits this year because people are becoming more cost-conscious," he said. "You're also spending time and gas money to get to these retail establishments. Online, you have more time to (do) in-depth research on the product that you want to buy."

While security remains an issue, Hadley says it has improved, along with perceptions, over the past three years.

If you are going to buy online, don't leave your shopping to the last minute, Luthi says, adding you can expect to wait at least 3-5 days before you get your package from your online retailer. "We always advise, especially in the Christmas season, to give yourself adequate time," he said.

Holiday shipping dos and don'ts

When packages arrive at your loved ones' doorsteps this holiday season, ensure they arrive on time and ready to delight. Shipping experts encourage consumers and businesses to think ahead when it comes to shipping this holiday season. Consider the following dos and don'ts when preparing gifts:

Don't

- Use masking tape, duct tape or electrical tape to seal boxes. These kinds of materials, along with other opaque tapes, may lack strength to hold the box together and can obscure addresses.
- Tie your package together with string, rope or elastic bands. These items can potentially get caught in processing equipment or torn off, damaging the parcel itself.
- Use real holiday wrapping paper to ship a gift, as it is likely to get torn up throughout the delivery cycle. Use strong, durable shipping paper instead.
- Allow any parts of your gift to protrude from the box, as it may get caught in processing equipment.
- Forget to include clearly visible shipping and receiving addresses, complete with postal codes.

Do

- Whenever possible, use a new box to ship your gift as previously-used boxes lose their strength over time.
- Use cardboard inserts to protect the edges of books and picture frames and pack against one corner of the box as opposed to the middle.
- Cover hollow items like toy buckets with large bubble wrap on the outside and inside.
- Use plenty of packing chips to fill in empty spaces in parcels that contain lightweight gifts.

NEWS CANADA

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This holiday season, Subway and Special Olympics Canada have teamed up to create a special edition charitable cash card. Subway will donate $1 of all cash card sales to Special Olympics Canada. Available until Dec. 31 at all Subway restaurants. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Holiday Shopping Guide II

For the home chef

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Chef's Choice PizzellePro Model 835, $49.99. Call 1-800-342-3255 or visit chefschoice.com to find a retailer near you.

Theatre Style Hot Air Popcorn Machine, $79.97 at Home Hardware. For more, go to homehardware.ca.

Kitchen Aid stand mixer in Bay Leaf, $399.99. Available at Home Outfitters, homeoutfitters.com.

Cuisinart Griddler Overstuffed Sandwich Maker, $79.99. Available at The Bay. For more, go to hbc.com.

Electric 15-inch Party Platter, $44.97 at Home Hardware. For more, go to homehardware.ca.

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Doan Thi Anh, preschool student in Vietnam

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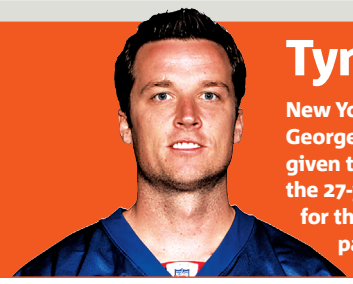
Report: Argos interview Fassel
A Vancouver radio station reported that Argonauts GM Adam Rita interviewed former New York Giants coach Jim Fassel for the team's head coaching vacancy yesterday. Fassel is also reportedly in the running for the Oakland Raiders job. SOURCE: TSN

Sports



Tynes asks Bush for pardon

New York Giants kicker Lawrence Tynes, left, has asked the George W. Bush administration to commute a lengthy sentence given to his brother for distributing marijuana. Tynes maintains that the 27-year sentence that his brother Mark is serving was excessive for the crime. It is customary for outgoing U.S. presidents to grant pardons before they leave office. METRO NEWS SERVICES

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Taking hockey know-how to China

Nova Scotia coach finds ticket to Vancouver with the Chinese women's national team

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

DOUG BENC/GETTY IMAGES

Paul Strople's China squad qualified for Vancouver earlier this month.

Paul Strople's friends told him he was crazy. Moving to China to coach the country's national women's hockey team?

"They'd say, 'What are you going there for? You have everything here,'" the 41-year-old Halifax native recalls. Strople had a wife, children and a job coaching bantam AAA hockey in Nova Scotia when Chinese hockey officials came calling last summer, but he couldn't turn them down.

He had already spent the 2004-05 season behind the national team bench, but wanted to go back for a second tour to lead China to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

"It was something that had been on my mind for four years," says Strople, who fell short in his bid for the Turin Games in 2006. "I wanted the challenge to prove to myself I could get to the Olympics. That was my biggest drive."

Strople got there — and his friends finally understand. "Now, when they send me an e-mail or call ... They're saying, 'Hey, if you need a water boy, a stick boy, or an assistant, I can take time off for the Olympics,'" Strople laughs.

China punched its ticket to Vancouver earlier this month at the final qualifier in Shanghai. Strople calls it the "biggest moment" of his coaching career, an odyssey that began in 1996 and includes stops in the Netherlands, Germany and Iceland.

With Strople's wife and children often living in the Halifax area, family sacrifices have been the biggest hurdle.

"When you go four months without seeing your family, it's a long haul," Strople said.

"But my wife's been very supportive of my career."

The language barrier was another major obstacle, but Strople has noticed a big difference in his second tour of duty.

Although he has a full-time interpreter, he barely needs one anymore. That's because a handful of the team's star players have spent time playing professionally in Canada in recent years — helping not only their on-ice skills but also their English.

"They understand me better than they understand the interpretation. Now, they're telling the interpreter, 'You don't need to translate for us.'"

Strople loves coaching and would relish an opportunity to get a job behind the bench at the university level closer to home.

His appearance at the Olympics likely won't hurt his cause.

"It could open a lot of doors," he says. "It's a great achievement for me and it will be a very big point on my resume."

Wild drop third in last four

NHL Loui Eriksson's third-period score was the winner as Dallas rallied from two goals down to edge Minnesota 4-3 last night and keep the Wild in a second-place tie with Calgary.

James Neal collected his first career two-goal game, and Brad Richards added a goal and an assist for the Stars, who stopped a three-game slide. Marty Turco made 25 stops for his sixth win of the season.

Stamps re-sign Mike Labinjo

CFL The Stampeders re-signed Mike Labinjo to a three-year contract extension yesterday after standout performances in both the Grey Cup and the Western final. The Toronto native and former NFLer had a sack and three tackles in Calgary's 22-14 win over Montreal in Sunday's Grey Cup. The defensive end was also voted the club's top Canadian player after he tied for the team lead in sacks.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's time for Daymond Langkow to step up

When Daymond Langkow gave up a chance at unrestricted free agency to re-sign with the Flames this summer, it was supposed to be a win-win situation for both himself and the team.

Langkow might have been able to secure $5 million had he made himself available to the highest bidder. By staying in Calgary, he took a bit of a home-province discount with $4.5 million. He also had the added benefit of playing alongside a Hart Trophy candidate.

Let's face it. Any NHL player with a modicum of talent should score 20 goals and 50 points centreing a line with Jarome Iginla and whomever.

So expectations for Langkow were again in the neighborhood of 30 goals and 70-plus points. For the stipend he's getting and the linemate he sees on his right side, that's the very least the organization and fans should expect.

Through 22 games, however, Langkow has just five goals and 15 points. That prorates to 19 goals and 56 points, which isn't good enough. Take away the eight points Langkow has on the power play and that means he has just seven points in 5-on-5 play through 22 games.

TheHockeyNews
Brian Costello

thehockeynews.com

Langkow has long fallen into the category of being too good to be classified a No. 2 centre, but not productive enough to be a top tier No. 1 centre.

He's creative on the rush, has a wonderfully quick release and is extremely reliable, having missed just six games the past six seasons.

But there's still something missing this season. He had six points in the first five games, but after getting leveled by Washington's Tyler Sloan Oct. 21, Langkow has been a shadow of his former self, both in his play and on the scoresheet (nine points in 17 games).

In Tuesday's 6-2 victory over Los Angeles, Matthew Lombardi played centre on the top line with Mike Cammalleri and Iginla. The energy line of Craig Conroy, Curtis Glencross and Rene Bourque filled the net as well. And the checking line of Wayne Primeau, Eric Nystrom and David Moss looked sharp.

Langkow was barely noticeable with Todd Bertuzzi and Dustin Boyd. It's time he caught up with the rest of the forwards.

The Hockey News
thn.com

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Montreal 3 Detroit 1
Buffalo 3 Boston 2
Colorado 3 St. Louis 1
Dallas 4 Minnesota 3
New Jersey 3 Florida 2 (OT)
N.Y. Rangers 3 Tampa Bay 2 (SO)
Philadelphia 3 Carolina 1
Phoenix 3 Columbus 2
Pittsburgh 5 N.Y. Islanders 3
Washington 5 Atlanta 3
Los Angeles 2 Edmonton 1
Chicago at San Jose

TONIGHT'S GAMES
CALGARY at Vancouver
Toronto at Ottawa

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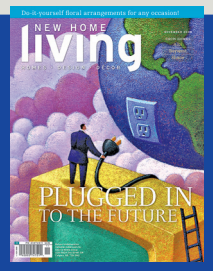

A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: NEW HOME | condo living HOMES · DESIGN · DÉCOR

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Houses get automated

Future-friendly the buzzword in home electronics trends

Sometimes as we look around our homes, cities and the world it is easy to think we are in a time warp and living in the future. Granted, there may not be hovercraft overhead or robotic maids delivering us our slippers, but we can now access our thousands of digital music files (formerly known as "songs") from any room in our home via a central hub, download TV shows and movies almost instantly to our TV, and control thermostats from work, the mall, or even Abu Dhabi.

"It's a personal thing, what technology means to people," says Ron Patrick, president of Smart Home Systems in Calgary. "Somebody will have a security hot button and be able to sleep better at night thanks to their security system, while somebody else won't even lock their doors but will want to crank their A/V system until the cows come home."

Kevin Birkholz, president of Birkholz Homes in Edmonton, reports that it is fairly standard to wire a new home for sound in at least six rooms (great room, dining room, kitchen, master bedroom, recreation area and exercise room), and that satellite radio and TV as well as recessed wall spaces for LCD and plasma TVs have become common features in clients' custom-designed homes.

The multi-room audio experience may now be fed through a central hub, where all stereo equipment is hidden in one location but accessible via keypads.

Adrian Terek, head of builder sales with Smart Space in Calgary, relates that the top request from his customers is wiring. "They've chosen to buy a home now … but they don't want to pay the price three or four years down the road where they don't have the wiring in place. So, the majority of our customers are spending, actually, a significant amount of money on wiring to make sure that they have almost unlimited options in the future."

Hot and cold

- One-upping the digital, pre-set thermostat is the heating system that automatically heats or cools based on pre-set limits.

And these days, it is all about the "i" … iPod, iTouch and iPhone, specifically. As Patrick confirms, "The world is iPod crazy."

All three are figuring prominently into the home, with the iPhone able to do — well, anything. Not quite, but each device can be deposited in specially-placed docks around the house to play music right there, and the iTouch and iPhone can both be used as remote controls to control lights, thermostat and other functions within the automated home.

Terek says that the iPhone is "a breakthrough in how people will be interacting with their home. It's only a short period of time before people will be able to control their whole home with their iPhone."

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Recessed wall spaces for LCD and plasma TVs have become common features in clients' custom-designed homes.

Home automation for the average homeowner today can mean any combination of light, heat, audio, video or security, controlled both through touchpads in the home as well as remotely via the Internet, cellphone or car computer.

The system that Birkholz finds himself installing in his homes most often (he estimates 25 per cent of new Birkholz homes incorporate the feature) is a low-voltage automated lighting system. This system features pre-set light levels which automatically adjust to present levels of natural light. For instance, during the day when the sun is bright, if the homeowner turns on the kitchen lights, they may adjust automatically to 50 per cent of their full level. As the day progresses and natural light lessens, light from the interior fixtures will increase. Levels can be adjusted from within or outside of the home.

Security, meanwhile, may come from cameras strategically placed around the home. Front and back entrances are an obvious choice, and Birkholz points out that many parents find the option attractive as it allows them to keep an eye on the kids in the backyard while working in the kitchen or elsewhere in the house for a few mintues.

All these options can make everyday living easier and more pleasant, and also lend a hand with entertaining in a variety of areas.

What will tomorrow bring? Only time will tell.

FROM SOURCE MEDIA GROUP
EDITED BY METRO CALGARY

Available office space on the rise next year?

ECONOMY Office space in Calgary may be more bountiful next year as the global economic downturn and the drop in the price of oil are set to increase the number of corporate consolidations and mergers, adding new sublet space to the market, according to a Cushman & Wakefield LePage report released Tuesday. While one million square feet of space will come into the market in 2009, vacancy could climb as high as 10-12 per cent between 2010-2012.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Good value

We've been pleasantly surprised by O at Home, a magazine that delivers plenty of inspiration while being realistic about most folks' decor budgets; see *oprah.com/magazine/oathome*. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

When renovations make over your marriage

Home improvement can be tough on relationships

HomeScape

Are you and your partner undergoing a home renovation? How wonderful! But before I shake your hand, I need to wish you good luck as a couple, because you'll need it.

The old chestnut that home renovation is responsible for ruining many a marriage has a hard kernel of truth, I'm afraid. To keep your marriage intact during a renovation, you'll need to discuss, negotiate disagreements, and reach a decision with civility.

You'll also need to communicate clearly but tactfully that you prefer the olive green rather than that sage that your partner just loves. And you will, from time to time, have to — oh, how I hate the word — compromise.

And did I just refer to "a" decision? Ha! There are thousands of decisions to be made, every day. They'll haunt you in your sleep. And then you'll wake up at the crack of dawn to a whistling contractor banging on your bedroom door.

Did I mention privacy? Well, you can toss aside that quaint notion for now. The contractor banging on the bedroom door? Soon he'll be walking into your room and opening your curtains for you. My advice is to get decent robes for you and your family. You'll be using them.

And there's one more thing. As soon as you break walls or put up new ones, you'll be living in a winter wonderland of drywall dust.

You'll be breathing in drywall dust, and every single thing you own will be saturated with drywall dust. And cleaning the dust will only make you feel better for a little while, because it settles happily back into place after a few hours. My blood pressure is going up just thinking about it.

I know there are some hardy souls who manage to stay cool, cordial and nonstressed during a renovation — my hat's off to them. But I think they're in the minority. The truth is that renovations disrupt your tidy little domestic life like nothing else.

If you and your hubby have small niggling arguments about where to store the cutting boards, renovations have a way of increasing exponentially the number of things about which you can argue.

Furthermore, things that should be mildly irritating end up becoming major irritants. Before long, you're having the same pointless arguments and now they're getting personal.

If you recognize yourself here, take heart. Even the most loving couple can appear to eat each other alive after a few months of reno hell.

The good thing is that renos and the marriage-stressing conditions associated with renos do eventually end. And then you'll suddenly, miraculously, be able to laugh at each other's jokes again.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in home decor and design. She has written extensively for the TV show Arresting Design.

Keeping the peace

Here are a few hints from Toronto couples therapist Karen Hirschheimer, *couple therapy.ca*, to make renos easier on your relationship:

Plan ahead

- Talk about what's important to each of you and why. Who will be responsible for what and when?

Have patience

- Be extra patient with each other and those doing the work. Having your home disrupted with people traipsing in and out can be very taxing.
- Keep kids involved, so they don't feel like unwitting victims when their normal, orderly existence is annihilated.
- Keep your cool when things go off track.

Show some respect

- Many partners have a different sense of style. Your home should represent both partners so it's important to make room for both tastes.

Take time out

- Spend quality time together doing fun things.

Forget the extras

- Put off doing things that aren't essential, i.e. don't take on extra projects at work. Renovations and all the decision-making associated with them can be exhausting.

ZIA SOLEIL

During home renovations, it takes work to keep your relationship with your partner on an even keel.

Advertising Feature

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Food

Passeddown.com, a food website dedicated to preserving food memories and family favourite recipes, encourages users to submit their own recipe and story.

Metro News Services

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

A real potluck party pleaser

À la carte

Barb Holland
Metro Food Writer

It seems every open house or potluck party I've attended or hosted has a variation of meatballs in sauce. And despite the fact that they are rather inelegant and drippy, they're familiar comfort food and always popular. Here's one I created a few years ago and serve or take it often. If you have a slow cooker, use it to keep them warm. They freeze well, so make a batch and stash till needed.

Cranberry Chipotle Glazed Meatballs

Chipotles are dried smoked jalapeno peppers in a spicy tomato vinegar sauce (adobo sauce). They are quite spicy and add a wonderful rich, smoky flavour. Purée the entire can, including sauce, until smooth. You won't need the entire can, so freeze the remaining in a resealable bag or freezer container for another use, such as chili, pulled pork or to kick up mayonnaise for a dip. Makes about 36 meatballs (recipe can be doubled).

INGREDIENTS:

- 1-1/2 lbs (750 g) lean ground chicken or turkey
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) prepared horseradish
- 2 tsp (10 mL) ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) pepper

Sauce:

- 398 mL can jellied (smooth not whole berry) cranberry sauce
- 215 g can chipotles with adobo sauce
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) horseradish or more to taste
- Salt and pepper

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Place a wire rack(s) over a large shallow rimmed pan. Lightly combine ground chicken or turkey, horseradish, cumin, salt and pepper and roll into small balls (about 1-inch/2.5 cm). Place balls on rack. Bake until cooked through, about 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, place cranberry sauce in a 4-cup (1 L) glass measure or small saucepan. Microwave or cook over low heat until sauce has melted. Purée the entire can of chipotles and adobo sauce. Add 2 tbsp (30 mL) purée to cranberry sauce, along with horseradish and salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a gentle boil, reduce heat and simmer a few minutes. Taste and adjust heat level (chipotles) or seasoning.

Combine meatballs and sauce. If serving soon, bring mixture to a simmer, transfer to a slow cooker, chafing dish or warm serving dish. If making ahead, cool then refrigerate or freeze. Reheat when ready to serve.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

Alternately serve these meatballs as a simple supper over mashed potatoes.

Support World AIDS Day through makeup purchases

Beautify yourself while helping a good cause by visiting your local MAC Cosmetics store. This World AIDS Day (Dec. 1), MAC is selling Viva Glam collections and Kids Helping Kids Greeting Cards to benefit HIV/AIDS organizations around the world. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

H&M partners with Williamson

It'll be a colour drenched summer. Renowned British designer Matthew Williamson, known for his colourful collections, will be H&M's next guest designer. His first collection will be an exclusive women's fashion range, which will hit select stores on April 23. To follow will be men's and women's summer pieces available at H&M stores worldwide in mid-May. Last year Williamson was honoured with an exhibition at the Design Museum in London called "Matthew Williamson — 10 Years in Fashion." METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Hit the slopes in neon designs

Neon Bright
Designer: Core Powder Room
Shop: Coast Mountain Sports
Address: Various Locations
coastmountain.com

Sketches
Designer: Core Powder Room
Shop: Sport Mart
Address: Various Locations
sportmart.ca

Full Design
Designer: Peak Performance
Shop: Peak Performance
peakperformance.com

Winter jackets

Show your style on the mountain with full designs and patterns on your jackets. This season it's all about freestyle sketch designs in bright neon colours. Regardless of where you're hitting the slopes, there are three types of jackets you should be aware of. First, the shell jacket is best used in milder winter conditions. The regular insulated jacket and the three-in-one jacket that combines the two jackets with removable zips is most popular in climates that experience a lot of versatility.

Drawstring
Designer: Da Kine
Shop: Sport Mart
Address: Various Locations
sportmart.ca

Detailed
Designer: Powder Room
Shop: West49
Address: Various Locations
west49.com

Pearlized
Designer: Peak Performance
Shop: Peak Performance
peakperformance.com

tip:
Buy gloves or mittens with removable inner inserts. These are best for drying your gloves quickly and efficiently.

Mittens

I've been shopping around for gloves and I've noticed that the best gloves to buy for any winter sport are mittens. Mittens trap the heat in from your entire hand, whereas gloves individually trap the heat in for each finger, making the insulation thicker and unbearable for fingers to move in. If you do like the freedom of loose digits, try looking around for a turtle hand. It's just as you would imagine it, a mitten with a separate section for your index finger which makes things easier for you to grab and unzip things.

Style File

Kim Elbo
kim.elbo@gmail.com

ask kim

I am looking to buy skis but don't know where to start?

Nordica suggests that you first ask yourself and let the retailer know about your actual skiing habits, such as how many times a year you hit the slopes and what type of terrain you prefer. Then think about your budget and be realistic with it. It's always good to spend a little more for quality. And remember, it's important to know your height and weight as it determines the length of your skis.

E-mail your style questions to *kim.elbo@gmail.com.*

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.

accessory

Not a board or ski bunny? Take a seat on the side with these DC snow boots, $120. Available at West49 (*west49.com*).

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt
New York designers Rodarte are hitting the international big leagues, exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

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New U2 album almost ready

U2 has almost finished work on their 12th studio album. Although the followup to 2004's How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb will not be released until 2009, Interscope label chairman Jimmy Iovine says the album is nearly complete. **ANANOVA.COM**

Entertainment

Stan again

Eminem's sixth studio album will feature a track labelled as the followup to his 2000 hit single Stan. The album is due out in early 2009.

ANANOVA.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●●○ EXCELLENT; ●●●○○ GOOD; ●●○○○ FAIR; ●○○○○ POOR

U2, Coldplay contribute to digital mag

MUSIC Some of the biggest names in music are contributing exclusive songs to RED(WIRE), a digital music magazine that launches on World AIDS Day (Dec. 1).

U2, Coldplay, the Killers, the Dixie Chicks, John Legend, R.E.M. and Bob Dylan are on board for the initiative, which is an outgrowth of the Bono-reared activist organization called (RED). All proceeds from subscriptions will benefit HIV-infected people in Africa.

For $5 US, users will receive a new issue of RED(WIRE) every Wednesday, featuring an exclusive song from a major musician, a song from a performer who (RED) aims to showcase and other features. **REUTERS**

Guns are finally loaded

Guns N' **Roses**

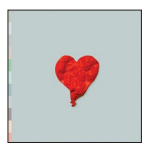
Album: Chinese Democracy
Label: Geffen/Universal
Rating: ●●●½

THIS WOULD HAVE been a landmark album if it had been released 15 years ago when Axl Rose began his Arthurian quest. It may have even saved hair metal from the onslaught of grunge (doubtful). Now, with its gunslinger guitars and castrato vocals, Chinese Democracy seems like a shiny relic unearthed from hair-metal Camelot. Rose has given finally given us his Sgt. Pepper of pop metal. At times it reaches power-ballad heaven. At others, it merely tastes like overdone Meatloaf. Maybe Axl left it in the oven a little too long.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Kanye **West**

Album: 808s & Heartbreak
Label: Roc-A-Fella/Universal
Rating: ●●●○○



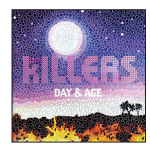
SINCE THE DEATH of his mother and the dissolution of a long-term relationship, the usually brash Kanye has been more subdued musically. His follow-up to last year's Graduation is a somber affair with slow, mellow songs about heartbreak and loss. While it's not nearly as exciting as previous efforts, it's still intriguing to see this hip-hop superstar get in touch with his softer side. The biggest detraction isn't the few plodding tunes that could have been cut, it's the overzealous use of auto-tune. If he used his own vocal skills this could have been a classic.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Axl Rose, right, finally released Chinese Democracy this week.

The **Killers**

Album: Day And Age
Label: Island Def Jam/Universal
Rating: ●●●○○



HOW CAN YOU not like an album that asks the question "Are we human or are we dancer?" Smoke a big one and you can spend hours mulling over its anti-grammatical philosophy. Killers frontman Brandon Flowers says the lyric to the single Human was inspired by a remark from the late king of gonzo Hunter S. Thompson. Thompson's madness was well-rooted in '60s drug-induced mayhem. The Killers are mired in '80s synth-pop, which is fine if all you want is to dance along with everyone else. This band is capable of more.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

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Leibovitz faces lawsuit from stylist
Celebrity photographer Annie Leibovitz has been targeted in a new lawsuit after a celebrity stylist accused her of failing to pay almost $400,000 US for her work on a photoshoot with Scarlett Johansson. IMDB.COM

The Truman syndrome

IntelleVision

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

YOU'RE ON CANDID CAMERA: The stories about deluded souls convinced their lives are the subjects of reality-TV cameras began not long after reality TV hit the airwaves, and the stories about the afflicted are cropping up at regular intervals in the news cycle.

An Associated Press story this week introduces us to three victims: A man who importuned staff at a federal building in the U.S. to get released from the reality show that had taken over his life, a second convinced that he was being filmed day and night for a TV contest, and a third who believed he was "part of a phony, stage-set world with him as the involuntary star," where even the drugs and therapy he was receiving were part of the illusion.

The last case is cited as a perfect example of what has been dubbed "Truman syndrome," the sole legacy The Truman Show, a 1998 Jim Carrey movie, has bequeathed upon popular culture.

The movie was specifically mentioned by several of the patients studied by Dr. Joel Gold of Manhattan's Bellevue Hospital over a two-year period, which might suggest a further link with the "previously viewed" bins in DVD rental stores.

It's hard not be both amused and fascinated by people who, at the very least, have developed an interesting twist on René Descartes's philosophical bumper sticker and T-shirt slogan: "I think, therefore I am."

The Cartesian epigram is a cornerstone of modern philosophy, but it's over 350 years old now, so it's no surprise that one branch has mutated into "I exist to be filmed," or some self-regarding variation thereof.

You can't help but be impressed with the weird power of television the first time you end up on it; friends and relatives who were patently unimpressed by my choice of profession could be counted on to respond enthusiastically when I ended up appearing on camera, either by accident (caught at the edge of a scrum of photographers) or on purpose (booked to provide verbiage as a talking head on some chat show.)

I'd go so far as to suggest that, for every unhappy soul complaining of being press-ganged into the Bachelor or Biggest Loser of some as-yet-unaired pilot, there are probably many more happily going through life glorying in the illusion of being the Gene Simmons or Donald Trump of their own social circle.

They are probably pulling up the covers at night, gleefully imagining that these last moments of their day are being captured in green and black night vision, their pupils as big and black as a zombie's.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

Noisy offenders punished with Manilow, Barney songs

JUSTICE A U.S. judge has hailed as a success a new form of punishment for people who go to court for being too noisy – an hour of listening to Barry Manilow or the theme tune from the children's TV show Barney and Friends.

Judge Paul Sacco said he decided to try something new after noticing that violators brought before his Colorado court for playing their stereos too loudly, or disturbing neighbours with band rehearsals, kept doing it again.

The usual practice of fining these offenders was not proving to be a deterrent, so he decided to give them a dose of their own medicine and make them listen to his musical selection at high volume for one hour.

He said his methods had cut the number of repeat offenders appearing in his court. But offenders who are found to enjoy facing the music will have the songs taken away from them. REUTERS

TMZ renewed for 2 more seasons

FOX Syndicated entertainment magazine show TMZ has been renewed for two more seasons on the Fox television stations. The station group has cleared the half-hour Warner Bros. show through the 2010-11 season. TMZ, which debuted in September 2007, is averaging a 2.0 household rating season-to-date, up 11 per cent from the same period a year ago. REUTERS

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CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
11/27/08 primetime	267	351	- ACCESS	Help TV		*A Christmas Carol: The Musical* ★★ (2004, Musical)				Eleventh Hour (HDTV)		Help TV
	243	317	3 CFCN	etalk	Dance	CSI: Miami		CSI: NY		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		News (N)
	-	-	4 BROAD	(4) Broadcast News News.		Broadcast News News.						
	-	371	5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving		(10:02) Grey's Anatomy (HDTV)		
	245	306	6 CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Pagan Christ		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338	7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	The Office	The Office	Survivor: Gabon (N)		The Office (N)		News Hour
	246	-	8 CKAL	Law & Order: SVU		Friends	Friends	30 Rock	30 Rock	30 Rock	30 Rock	Your City
	119	705	9 CBXFT	Virginie (SC)	Infoman (SC)	Enquête (HDTV) (SC)		Grosse vie (N)	C.A. (N) (SC)	Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)		TJ Alberta
	-	-	10 SHAW	(6) Local Programming						Local Programming		
	-	372	12 KREM	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors		Survivor: Gabon (HDTV)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Eleventh Hour
	-	374	14 KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Mario Lanza: Sing to Gods		Sherlock Holmes Mysteries		Globe Trekker (DVS)		Zappa-Zappa
	502	390	15 CBC	CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Nature-Things
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	*The Incredibles* ★★★ (2004, Adventure) Voices of Craig T. Nelson.				
	-	373	22 KAYU	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	*Click* ★★ (2006, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Christopher Walken.				News (N)
	297	652	37 WPIX	Supernatural (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	According-Jim
news	500	500	29 CNN	CNN Heroes: An All-Star Tribute (N)				Anderson Cooper 360		Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	508	502	31 CNN2	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Nancy Grace		Showbiz Tonight		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Nancy Grace
sports	400	400	21 TSN	(6) NFL Football Arizona Cardinals at Philadelphia Eagles.				SportsCentre		E:60 (N)		Poker Night
	408	418	27 net	Flames Week	Flames Conn	NHL Hockey Calgary Flames at Vancouver Canucks. (HDTV) (Live)					Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Con.
	410	403	30 SCORE	(6) 24/7	Score Tonight		NBA Basketball New Orleans Hornets at Denver Nuggets. (Live)					24/7
family	411	457	44 OLN	Survivorman		Pilot Guides Specials		Pilot Guides		Don't Forget Your Passport		Commando
	417	406	48 SPEED	Wrecked (N)	Wrecked (N)	Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked	Wrecked
	552	543	20 YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	557	541	39 FAM	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School
	555	545	67 TOON	6teen	Total Drama	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	The Critic
cable variety	575	583	11 CMT	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Gone Country		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba
	553	546	17 TREE	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears	Babar	Backyardigans	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!
	-	-	18 CHTV	The Insider (N)	E! News	X-Weighted "Amy"		*Click* ★★ (2006, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Christopher Walken.				News (N)
	505	398	19 TWN	(5) EarthWatch One		EarthWatch One		EarthWatch Two				
	602	568	23 W	House	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design
	521	560	24 TLC	Jon & Kate Plus 8		Twins, Twins & Sextuplets		Jon & Kate Plus 8		Jon & Kate Plus 8		Twins, Twins
	603	561	25 FOOD	Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Jamie's Kitchen Australia		Restaurant Makeover		Challenge		Unwrapped
	615	520	26 A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48		The First 48
	617	522	32 SHOW	EastEnders	Spaced	Painkiller Jane		ReGenesis "Talk to Him"		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Saving Grace
	601	562	33 SLICE	X-Weighted "Chris"		The Biggest Loser		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Chris"		Biggest Loser
	-	633	34 ENC2	*Terminal Man*	(7:20) *The Lost Boys* ★★★ (1987, Horror)			*Nighthawks* ★★★ (1981, Suspense)			(10:40) *Candyman* (1992)	
	520	505	35 DISC	(6) To Be Announced		MythBusters		Daily Planet		Monster Moves		TBA
	620	523	36 BRAVO	*Where the Truth Lies* ★★ (2005, Drama) (DVS)				Law & Order "Sundown"		Without a Trace		*I'm All Right*
	294	650	40 WPCH	Friends	Friends	Frank Ski-Amazon Special		Family Guy	Family Guy	Seinfeld	*Groundhog Day* ★★ (1993)	
	626	547	41 COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Colbert Cmas
	-	539	42 TCM	*Cheaper*	*Yours, Mine and Ours* ★★★ (1968, Comedy) Lucille Ball.				*With Six You Get Eggroll* (1968, Comedy)			*Please Don't*
	628	584	43 SPIKE	TNA iMPACT! (HDTV) (N)				CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Disorderly Conduct: Video		MANswers
	522	516	45 HIST	Finding the Fallen		NCIS		Lost Worlds		Finding the Fallen		NCIS
	627	528	46 SPACE	Battlestar Galactica		Chuck (HDTV)		Stargate SG-1		Lost		Deep Space 9
	-	-	47 AMC	(6) *The Godfather* ★★★★ (1972, Crime Drama) Marlon Brando, Al Pacino.						*The Godfather, Part II* ★★★★ (1974)		
	619	525	49 TROP	Make or Break	Naked Fashion	Beverly Hills, 90210		Make or Break	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	600	564	50 HGTV	The Fix	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip	Real Renos (N)	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
	504	508	70 BNN	Squeeze Play		Market Call		Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Business News	Squeeze Play
	526	507	92 VIVA	The West Wing		Passion	Homicide File	Psychic Inv.	Encounters	Judging Amy		Commander
	269	350	93 APTN	Suaangan	Wapos Bay	By the Rapids	renegadepress	*Big Spender* (2003, Drama) Casper Van Dien, Corinne Conley.				Fish Out of
	-	-	94 MCP	(6:30) News	News	Matchmaker	Mom's-Upset	Vancouver	Kirdaar	Dheeyan Ghar	Sadabahar	Desi-Mama
	571	581	100 MMM	Listed		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Party of Five		Behind the Music		Party of Five
	570	580	101 MM	50 Cent: Money and Power		50 Cent: Money and Power		Muchmusic Countdown			Pimp My Ride	MuchVibe
	581	566	102 MTV	The Hills	Super Sweet	True Life		MTV Live	After	Paris Hilton's My New BFF		True Life

critics'corner

Snapshot
"C'mon, Bossy, work it!" This new episode of the series spotlighting Canadian photographers turns the lens on Rob MacInnis and his Farm Family Project, in which he uses barnyard animals as models. As he puts it, his intent is "to draw parallels between the idealization of the human form in contemporary fashion photography and the subjugation of animals by humans." No, he's not putting sheep in designer gowns, but his images are worth a look.
6 PM on BRAVO

The Incredibles
This is one family that won't have to worry about Halloween costumes. Once public superheroes, Elastigirl and Mr. Incredible settle down and recede from society's critical eye. But after three children and no action, Bob "Mr. Incredible" Parr gets restless and joins a secret organization. When he gets in trouble, it's up to his family to save him. Voices include Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Jason Lee, Spencer Fox and Sarah Vowell.
9 PM on KHQ

Daly to be a daddy
TV personality Carson Daly and girlfriend Siri Pinter are expecting their first child together in early spring. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Kevin left Britney

REVELATION Britney Spears has revealed Kevin Federline ended their marriage, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer filed for divorce in 2006, but has now confessed it was actually the aspiring rapper who called time on their relationship.

"I didn't think my husband was gonna leave me," she says. Spears, who recently admitted the marriage was a mistake, also revealed her sadness over the split because it means the couple's two sons, Sean Preston, 3, and Jayden James, 2, can't enjoy a traditional upbringing.

"To be a really good mom, I feel your child needs to be your full-time job. I want to raise my kids and share all of those precious moments with them," Spears tells Rolling Stone magazine.

"If Kevin hadn't left, I'd be with my babies 24/7. But since they're almost like twins, they both take care of each other."

Spears has three visits a week with her sons.

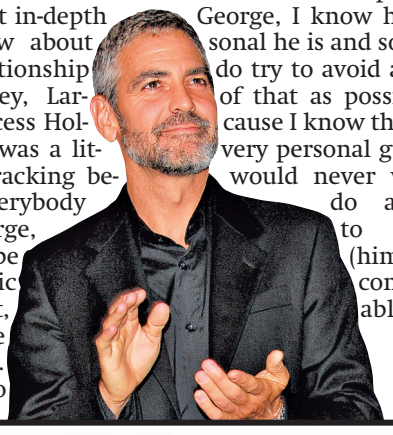
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Dating Clooney 'stressful,' ex says

RELATIONSHIPS Dating George Clooney was "nerve-wracking" and "stressful" as far as his model ex Sarah Larson was concerned, imdb.com reports.

The former cocktail waitress admits she loved dating the actor, but the romance wasn't always a hoot.

In her first in-depth TV interview about her relationship with Clooney, Larson tells Access Hollywood, "It was a little nerve-wracking because everybody loves George, and so, to be in the public eye like that, it was a little bit stressful. It's a lot to take in. I think I just went like a deer in the headlights. At times, I (didn't) know what to do."



The pair dated for almost a year and Larson reveals the breakup was fast, and she hasn't kept in touch with Clooney. Still, Larson is determined not to kiss-and-tell.

"Out of respect for George, I know how personal he is and so I really do try to avoid as much of that as possible, because I know that he's a very personal guy and I would never want to do anything to make (him) uncomfortable."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jolie denies pregnancy

RUMOUR Angelina Jolie has been forced to deny she is pregnant again following tabloid reports suggesting the actress is expecting her fourth biological child with Brad Pitt, imdb.com reports.

Speculation surrounding a reported pregnancy has dogged the couple in recent months, rumours which were denied by the Oscar winner's publicist earlier this month.

In Touch magazine has most recently claimed Jolie is pregnant again, reporting that Jolie announced the news to a waiter in a London restaurant after he tried to pour her an alcoholic drink.

But the star's representative, Geyer Kosinski, refutes the reports, telling usmagazine.com the claims are "not true."

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Anderson wants to be taken seriously

IMAGE Pamela Anderson is ready to ditch her image as a pinup so she can reinvent herself as a serious actress, imdb.com reports. Now that she's 41, the former Baywatch star is reportedly eager to be a better role model for her two sons. "Pam felt her management team just saw her as a sexy pinup, and she wants to be taken more seriously," a source tells Star magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

HELLO! Hot shot of the week

PETER BREGG/HELLO! CANADA

The Young and the Restless star Eric Braeden, a.k.a., the charmingly ruthless Victor Newman, recently welcomed HELLO! Canada into his luxurious Los Angeles home. While he's nothing like Victor Newman, he certainly has his alter-ego's self-discipline. "Today, I did 100 pushups," says the 67-year-old former athlete, who stays in shape by playing tennis, biking and boxing. "If I don't have much time during the day, I'll do 100 squats in the shower."

HELLO! CANADA magazine, now available on newsstands — read more at hellomagazine.ca

Mariah musical in the works

PEOPLE Mariah Carey's life story is set to be made into a musical, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer has reportedly attracted attention from a big name in the theatre industry who wants to create a Broadway show based on her.

"A huge, huge Broadway producer is interested in Mariah's story and it's in discussions," a source says.

The stage show is set to feature some of the 39-year-old's most highly publicized troubles including her divorce from Sony boss Tommy Mottola in 1997, arguments with record producers and her reported physical and emotional breakdown.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Richie, Madden to wed?

COUPLES Nicole Richie and Joel Madden are reportedly set to marry on their daughter's first birthday, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The couple, who welcomed Harlow into the world on Jan. 11, are reportedly keen to tie the knot to show their child how much they love each other.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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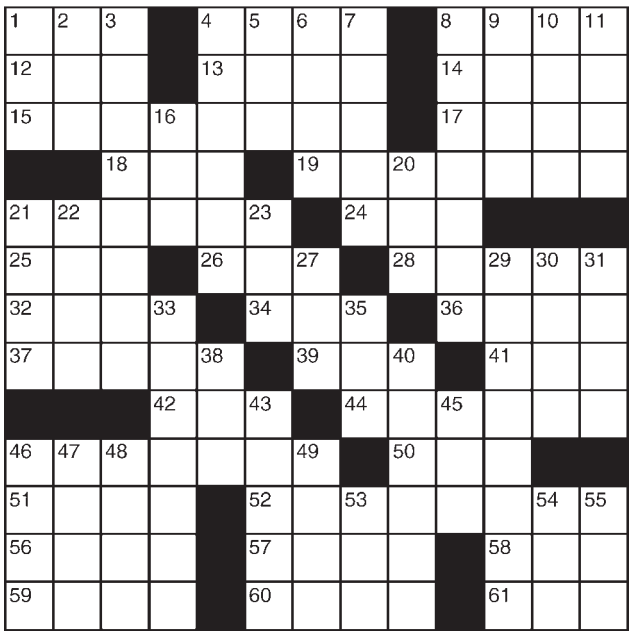
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Light application
4 Author Greene
8 Bean curd
12 TV lawyer Stone
13 Destroy
14 Wading bird
15 Montana city
17 Top-notch
18 Young fellow
19 Happening on 12/31
21 Sullen look
24 Genetics abbr.
25 Ply paddles
26 Grass drops
28 Unpaid bills
32 First victim
34 Pooch
36 Tragic
37 TV, newspapers, etc.
39 Crucial
41 Driver's ID (Abbr.)
42 Frequently
44 Dry red wine
46 "— of Solace"
50 Floral neckwear
51 Incite
52 Wallet
56 Mid-month date
57 Lotion additive
58 Keanu, in "The Matrix"
59 Face (Sl.)
60 Acerbic
61 Moment

Crossword down

1 Society newbie
2 Boxer Laila
3 Rose in waves
4 Led
5 Massachusetts cape
6 Nervous
7 Runner-up
8 Adorned a la Miss America
9 Orchestra member
10 Sawyer's pal
11 Secondhand
16 Legislation
20 Moreover
21 Metric measure
22 Earring site
23 Scarlet
27 Stir-fry pan
29 Oodles
30 Small combo
31 Denomination
33 Elsa of "Born Free," e.g.
35 Jewel
38 Sternward
40 "Old" Disney dog
43 Members of the brass
45 Gridiron decider
46 Witticism
47 Pakistan's language
48 A very long time
49 Venus de —
53 Costello or Ferrigno
54 Shelter
55 Elmer, to Bugs

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

9				7				8
3	5						2	1
			1		6			
	4			9			5	7
		9				6		
7	2			1			4	
			9		4			
5	6						7	4
8				3				6

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

A	D	D	■	N	A	I	L	■	C	L	I	P		
I	R	E	■	O	L	I	O	■	L	I	K	E		
M	E	L	■	S	L	I	P	C	O	V	E	R		
S	W	I	P	E	■	■	E	A	T	■	■	■		
■	■	■	A	J	A	R	■	L	H	A	S	A		
P	E	T	L	O	V	E	R	■	E	V	I	L		
U	Z	I	■	B	E	B	O	P	■	I	R	A		
B	R	E	D	■	S	E	A	R	O	V	E	R		
S	A	R	A	H	■	C	R	O	W	■	■	■		
■	■	■	M	A	R	■	■	G	N	A	R	L		
G	L	O	S	S	O	V	E	R	■	H	A	Y		
A	I	D	E	■	D	O	R	A	■	E	G	O		
P	E	E	L	■	S	W	A	M	■	M	E	N		

4	8	1	9	6	2	3	7	5
9	3	7	5	1	4	2	6	8
6	5	2	3	7	8	4	1	9
3	1	9	2	4	6	5	8	7
5	7	6	8	3	9	1	2	4
2	4	8	7	5	1	6	9	3
7	2	3	1	9	5	8	4	6
1	9	4	6	8	3	7	5	2
8	6	5	4	2	7	9	3	1

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Lamb Cutlets with Flageolet Beans

INGREDIENTS:
2/3 cup (150mL) lamb or chicken stock
1/4 lb (110 g) fine green beans
Salt and black pepper
1 tbsp (15 mL) olive oil
5 tbsp (75 mL) butter
1 lemon
2 sprigs of fresh rosemary
8 lamb cutlets or lean loin chops, about 3 1/2 oz (100g) each
1 medium onion
2 cans (15oz / 425g) flageolet beans
2 cloves garlic
1 1/4 cup (300mL) dry white wine
2 tsp (10 mL) cornstarch
4 tbsp (60 mL) heavy cream
2 tbsp (25 mL) capers

METHOD:
1. Put a kettle of water on to boil. Preheat oven to low; heat stock.
2. Rinse and cut green beans into 1 in. (2.5 cm) pieces. Cook in salted boiling water until tender.
3. Put oil and 1-1/2 tbsp (25 mL) butter into frying pan and place over moderate heat. Grate lemon rind into pan. Add rosemary sprigs and increase heat.
4. Season lamb cutlets with pepper. Place in pan with sizzling butter, lower heat to moderate and fry for 5 minutes per side, until golden brown.
5. Melt remaining butter in another pan. Peel and chop onion; fry over moderate heat for 5 minutes.
6. Rinse canned beans in a colander, then drain cooked green beans into same.
7. Peel garlic, crush into onion, and cook for 30 seconds. Add beans, season and stir. Lower heat; heat through, stirring occasionally.
8. Remove cutlets and rosemary from first frying pan. Keep warm in oven.
9. Pour off fat from pan, leaving lamb residue. Add wine and juice from half the lemon; boil rapidly until reduced by half.
10. Blend cornstarch with 1 tbsp (15 mL) water and stir into stock, then into wine. Boil, reduce to simmer and stir in cream. Season, add capers and heat through. Do not boil.
11. Return cutlets and rosemary to pan, stirring in juices. Serve with mixed beans.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
History will repeat itself. A friend will shock you with future plans. An animated debate gets somebody into trouble.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Suppress your impatience about a compromise. A dream provides a solution for a rough situation. A prickly person cancels a meeting.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Delays will hamper transportation. A captivating person will excite you. Plans for the future will raise your spirits.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A woman must be set straight about the truth of a situation. A lost person arrives after a problem clears up. An untrustworthy guy tempts a friend.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Special moments will arise with a bashful guy. You'll see a stranger going wild. A friend has you wondering about a secret love.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Someone is looking forward to a last minute change. Problems with an outlaw show the need for an expert. Tolerate a weirdo's irrelevant message.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A visitor's disrespect relates to your unpopular opinion. A mocking liar begins to bore you. A man met in transit will spark interest in an idea.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
A bold man has been talking about your insights. Somebody's kindness will inspire wickedness. A friendly guy reveals a secret.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A professional steps in to judge a dispute. Your vigor increases as a terrible burden goes away. You'll meet a new friend through business.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A man needs to get some relief from tension. Don't ask for favours if you want to be taken seriously. You might get more than you really wanted.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Trust your instincts if offered a second chance. Don't be sceptical about a stroke of good luck. Someone's success will open your eyes.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Someone will leave an unbearable situation. A talk with a man is a terrible thing. You can't hurry love.

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Text Messaging	–	Unlimited[6]
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- Deer Valley Shopping Centre
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- Market Mall
- Marlborough Mall - kiosk
- North Hill Shopping Centre - kiosk
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- Shawnessy Village
- Southcentre Mall
- Southcentre Mall - kiosk
- Southpointe Shopping Centre
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- Southgate Mall - kiosk
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